



# Riverside DUI Enforcement PRESS RELEASE



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 14, 2019

### CONTACT:

Sergeant Eric Detmer  
Riverside Police Department  
Field Operations – Traffic Bureau  
(951) 351-6046  
edetmer@riversideca.gov

### **Riverside Police Department is Working to Keep Roadways Safe this St. Patrick's Day** *Please Celebrate Responsibly: Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving*

Riverside, Calif. – St. Patrick's Day is celebrated by millions across the country, often culminating in parties where drinking is involved. Sadly, this leads to tragedies on our roadways because of drivers who choose to leave parties impaired.

This St. Patrick's Day (March 17), The Riverside Police Department will have additional officers on patrol from Friday, March 15 through Sunday, March 17, 2019, ready to stop and arrest drivers suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Prior to this enforcement operation, The Riverside Police Department will conduct a "Know Your Limit" educational program in the Downtown Entertainment District, Friday, March 15, 2019. The "Know Your Limit" program offers volunteers a non-enforcement Breathalyzer test that helps educate the public on the effects alcohol has on an individual's blood alcohol level (BAC). These efforts aim to lower impaired driving which have such a devastating and avoidable impact on too many members of the community.

According to data from the California Highway Patrol (CHP), one person was killed and 48 others were injured in DUI crashes on St. Patrick's Day last year. In 2017, 59 people were killed nationwide in drunk-driving crashes over the St. Patrick's Day holiday (March 16-March 18), accounting for 37 percent of all traffic deaths.

Due to St. Patrick's Day becoming a dangerous holiday on our roads, Riverside Police Department encourages everyone to plan ahead and use a designated sober driver, ride-share or public transportation. Even one drink can be one too many.

Sergeant Eric Detmer of the Riverside Police Department said, "Don't even put yourself in a position where you need to ask whether you are okay to drive. If you feel the slightest hint of a buzz, you should not be driving. Let's all be responsible adults and help each other get where we need to go safely"

Riverside Police Department also wants to remind everyone that a "DUI Doesn't Just Mean Booze." Prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications and marijuana can all be impairing, especially in combination with alcohol or other drugs.



# Riverside DUI Enforcement PRESS RELEASE



Funding for St. Patrick's Day DUI enforcement is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

###

